

CHARLESTOWN HERITAGE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, 27 April, 2010 7:00 pm
Bakery Building, Main Street, Charlestown, NH

Present: Wesley Van Velsor, Eric Lutz, Barbara Jones, Joyce Higgins, Carol Clark, alternate Aare Ilves

Absent: Terry Spilsbury.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chairperson Wesley Van Velsor. In the absence of Terry Spilsbury, Aare Ilves was seated as alternate.

1. Minutes for the 23 March, 2010 meeting were approved.
2. Aare Ilves provided the Heritage Commission with the current financial status of its accounts. Aare said he received a check for \$2,000.00 from the Trust Fund and that it was deposited into the Commission's savings account. He was then able to deduct previous approved expenses relative to the Charlestown Third History project from this account, leaving an approximate balance of \$1,200.00. The March charges of Judy's expenses on this project will be delivered to Aare, leaving an approximate balance of \$1,500.00 in the general fund and \$1,000.00 in the Book fund. Aare's Bookkeeper's report was accepted as stated.
3. Joyce Higgins reported that the completed genealogy forms to be included in the Third History of Charlestown book are steadily coming in, and Sue is forwarding them to Judy for input into the database. Joyce explained that there is a significant amount of time and effort in proofreading and editing at this stage, making it more consistent and cost effective once the Third History project nears completion. The sub-committee for this project continues to meet every two weeks.
4. Carol Clark gave a summary of efforts regarding the Essay contest, and stated that following a meeting between Terry Spilsbury and the Middle School English/Language Arts teacher, six students from the Charlestown Middle School have elected to participate in the contest. Terry also stated that his conversation with the new teacher resulted in a better understanding of this contest and that she would be better prepared for the Essay contest next year. Once a list of students who completed their essays is available, certificates will be created and presented at the June meeting of the Charlestown Historical Society.
5. Wesley Van Velsor spoke again with Bob Graves regarding the availability and logistics of Bob's oxen pulling the cannon in the Old Home Day parade. Wes will arrange to obtain a key for the building in which the cannon is currently housed, and will go with Bob to discuss necessary engineering. It was also stated that Judie Petrie knows of someone who may have two horses and a buggy available if we wanted a back-up option for pulling the cannon. Possible Grand Marshalls for the parade were also discussed. The Charlestown Heritage Commission, and possibly the Charlestown Historical Society, will have its brochures and/or pamphlets available at the Town Hall on Old Home Day. It was suggested that a sign be placed on Main

Street directing people to the Town Hall, and that Our Town will probably publish a list of activities taking place on Old Home Day.

6. The “Welcome to Charlestown” sign initiative was discussed, to include sign cost, placement, and wording. It was moved and passed that the new signs would resemble those already in place in North Charlestown, and the new signs would read “Welcome to Charlestown, Established 1740, National Register District”. One sign would replace the sign on the south end of Main Street, currently reading 1987, and the other sign would be placed on the north end of Main Street. Aare and Eric will determine the exact desired location for the sign on the north end of Main Street, and Eric will go before the Planning Board for approval. Wes will talk to the supplier of the North Charlestown sign to see if he is willing to do the new ones. The Charlestown Women’s Club, who paid for the previous sign situated on the north end of Main Street, was contacted and is in agreement regarding the replacement of the older sign.

7. Replacement of the benches along Main Street was discussed, and it was affirmed that the Charlestown Women’s Club highly recommends the benches being placed once again, as they are helpful to those who walk along Main Street. Possible locations of the benches and necessary costs of repair were considered. It was decided that Wes would go before the Selectboard with the request for benches being once again placed in appropriate public areas along Main Street, and the Commission would determine its action following that meeting.

8. Barbara wrote two articles for Our Town last month, and we assume that the second article will appear in the next edition. Eric also wrote an article and submitted a photo regarding the Boy Scouts and Earth Day for the next publication. It was decided that next month we would submit another paragraph to encourage submission of genealogy forms, and possibly give a deadline for submission to have their names appear in the Third History draft in July.

9. Eric mentioned that the Town website is not accurate/complete regarding the terms of service for the Charlestown Heritage Commission Members, and that the January Commission meeting notes were not included on the website. Carol said she would make sure Kelly received the January notes, as well as any others that were missing.

The next Heritage Commission meeting is scheduled for May 25 at 7:00 pm at the Bakery building. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Carol Clark
Secretary

Unapproved minutes

